DECISION DAY.

The Sunday-School Pentecost Follows the Annual "Week of Reaping."

PARENTS ARE IMPORTANT FACTORS.

Paper read by Mrs. W. J. Piggott, of Irvington, at the Sunday-School Association at this place

is that it fails to accomplish its purpose, put into our work that it rarely records conversions as a resuit of its teaching; therefore the Surof precious souls.

Each association calls upon every Sunday School in its state to observe a certain week in the year as a "week of

The Sabbath following that week is Decision Day. The associations state the first great purpose of Decision Day to be, to reap such of the grain as might be ripened to harvest, and second to arouse Sunday school workers and parents to the necessity of so teaching the word that it may have opportunity to develop, and so cultivate the tender growth that it may mature and so watch for the coloring that denotes ripeness as to speak the winning word at the opportune moment, and thus secure the har-

During the week of reaping, sp cial services are held by teachers and parents, for the fixed purpose of prayer and supplication to God for the salvation of pupils and children.

There are no fixed times when God is specially willing to pardon, he is always willing. "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" saith the Lord, and "Seek and ye shall find." Yet while this is true we know that the seasons when soul harvest are more readily gathered are those which follow periods of preaching and teaching for immediate

There is a wonderful efficiency in con-

The greatest pentecost recorded was the day upon which the christian church was assembled "with one accord in one

It is the privilege of every Sunday lieve, result in the reaping of a bountifu harvest.

We do not need to examine statistics of churches to prove that men and women who have rejected Christ for many years are seldom led to accept him. "Suffer the little children to come al time to decide for Christ seems to be during childhood and early youth.

We have not yet adopted the Decision Day plan in our state, and in the absence of this organized effort at sowing and reaping, what are we doing? Are we accomplishing enough in the way of leading souls to Christ? The fields are rip . why not gather the harves:? We have the promise, "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the star for ever and ever." And again. "He that goeth forth with weeping bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him.'

Are we sufficiently alive to the needs of the age, of the day, yea of the hour? We are opt mists enough to believe that the world is growing better, but are we helping it all we can? The true teacher pectation that the unconverted will ac cept Christ as a personal Savior, and that those who are saved will grow in grace and in a knowledge of the love of

If we have fellowship with God enthusiasm will creep into our work. Enthusiasm has been defined as "God in us" and when we see the results of in- abideth in me bringeth forth much tense enthusiasm we feel sure that it is fruit." a God given qualification.

All of the great movements that have swept the earth with power have origin ated in the mind of and developed by the will of some great enthusiast.

Sacred and profane history teem with examples of mighty deeds done by the power of enthusiasm. Garabaldi was an enthusiast On his way to Rome in 1867 he was told that he would be imprisoned. He said if fifty Garabaldisare imprisoned, let Rome be free!" St Paul was an enthusiast, holy enthusiasm his. He said, "I would to God that not only thou but all who hear me this day were both almost and altogether such as I am except these bonds. Martin Luther was an enthusiast; inspired enthusiasms.

When warned of his danger he said, "If I had fifty heads I would lose them all rather than recant." Success de-

A common criticism of the Sunday school | pends upon the amount of life blood we Perhaps you are all familiar with the

story of a certain artist who surprised day school associations of several states and puzzled his competitors by the great have adopted a plan of action which beauty of a certain shade of red, which must result in a great mgathering be put into his pictures. The artist died and many scars were found upon his

> The myste y was solved. He h d takthe paint. This was little better than a heathen sacrifice, but why do we not give the best that is in us to our Sunday School work, remembering that impressions are for time and eternity.

> People are desperately in earnest in secular affairs, why shouldn't the same amount of earnestness animate them in religious matters? Many of us wonder that we fail, that no conversions are recorded as a result of our teaching, that the seed we sow seems to fall anywhere but in good ground.

Our experiences are similar to those of the man who visited the trout stream. He reported that hundreds of the trout saw him, were disturbed by him and were conscious of his presence but not one of them was caught. Sunday School classes are conscious of a t acher's presence and may be entertained, but he is not accomplishing the real work of the, teacher unless the pupils learn through him to know God.

The true fisherman will do more than entertain the fish, he will catch them. I never observe a member of my class intently studying the landscape through the nearest window, or intensely interested in the personal adornment of the girl just in front of her, that I do not feel that there must be a painful lack of vitality in my teaching. We need in our work enthusiasm and courage and watchfulnes such as Napoleon called the two o'clock in the morning kind, we need to overcome the apathy of the school to have a pentecost and as organ | flesh, the allurements of the world that ized effort in any direction is much more | beset both publis and teacher and the effective than is a greater force unorgan- blandishments of the evil one. Let us reized, the adoption of this Decision Day member also that which attracted the flame and the wild beasts would possess plan in all of our states would, we her multitudes to Christ was not Christ's no terrors. teaching alone, but his lowly humble life, his personal ministrations and his

> Christianity exemplified is much more effective then theoretical Christianity. Our punils and the world will be

much sooner won to Christ by the forunto me" said the Christ, and the natur. mer. This is a commercial age, goods

Judged by many samples of Christians we see it is but small wonder that Chris tranity is regarded as a worthless com-

Our living is more convincing than our logic Some one has said that "Christianity is not a drifting upon divine currents, it is earnest navigation toward a desired haven."

If we have failed during the past year to lead souls to Christ it is probably because we have depended too much on our own strength and resources Spurgeon says, "Let not any of us talk to our Sunday Scho I class or preach from the pulpit or write a letter about our Lord un til we have had a fresh glimpse of him

When you have yourself been with Christ, when you have yourself just come forth from the ivory palaces of communion and fellowship with the of God's word will teach in constant ex- Lord Jesus, all your garments will smell of myrrh and aloes and cassia and your words will have some of the precious savor clinging to them."

> L t us fix our hearts so completely upon Him that when we cry to others "Behold the 'amb of God" it shall be because we have ourselves just beheld Him. Let us abide in Christ. "He that

In all the outlines of the plans for Decision Day which I have seen, the parents were important factors in the work. The Ohio association urges parents personally to interview and pray with their children on the Saturday preceding Decision Day which Saturday is called the day of contact. Parents and teachers are asked to observe the hour of noon on that day as a season of prayer and

heart searching Isn't it certain that concerted action of this nature on the part of parents and teachers would result in a glerious harvest? We doubt God's word if we do not believe it.

There is no trust in the world so important as the trust of parentage and none which many people regard more

Food, clothing, shelter and schooling they provide but they utterly ignore the fact that the creator has intrusted to them the most susceptible and receptive creature on earth when he commits to their charge a human soul.

Every parent who has observed his child at all knows what an imitative creature he is, and we all know that tendencies to good or evil charge er often spring from parental influence.

Think of the monotonous uniformity in the history of certain Jewish kings. Each one walked in the way of his father, and did evil in the sight of the

The fathers made the path and the sors walked in it.

Many a father studies his account book or the political situation more than he studies the peculiarities of his children; and many a mother gives more attention to the needs of her poultry, the latest novel, or the choicest bit of neighborhood gossip than she does to the inclinations of her sons and daughters.

Statistics show that there is a decline en his own life blood and mixed with in the percentage of conversions in several denominations.

Is not much of this due to the decline

of home religion? Along a rocky shore on the Massachusetts coast are many A traveller asked an old sea captain,

"Why are there so many wrecks" "Bad steering" was the laconic reply,

I think the Christ looks down upon this world, and he sees the sea upon which we make the voyage of life strewn with the wrecks of those who sailed out of the harbor with promise and joy, and his great, tender, loving heart throbs with an infinite pity for these victims of

Some one is responsible. Is it you? Is it 1? With Jesus as the Captain every little bark may be guided to a safe and beautiful haven.

Dear friends, let us urge upon our pupils and children the importance of deciding for God. Nothing is more nobl than decision of character, and when that decision comes at the dictates of conscience, it is sublime. It led Joseph from a dungeon to the throne of the

It has given to the world a Daniel, a Luther, a Paul, and a Wesley. It is decision which shall carry the

average of human character up higher

The great need of the world today is good and pure minded men and women with decision of character. Broad and liberal minded men and women of great soul and clear vision and firm convic tions and faith and godliness. Men and women for whom the stake and the

Men and women who by their genius. or holiness, or patriotism, or some other grace have kept alive the smouldering fires of truth and goodness. Such men were Moses and Elijah and Paul and St. Augustine, Luther, Washington and Lincoln. These men spoke great words, they thought great thoughts, they did great deeds. They marched across their age with a tread that shook the continents and a light that illuminated the

"Hidden so mewhere in the Almighty's arsenal are botis as keen and strong as any that he has ever used," says a great divine, "and he will use them when the hour comes." Who shall say that some of these coming leaders may not be liv ing among us today, their names unspoken. Tomorrow they willcome forth, each a Sir Galahad, "whose strength is as the strength of ten because his heart is

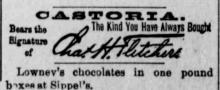
Parents, teachers and pupils let us grasp the opportunity to be among the leciding forces for right.

We are all endowed with some talents. It may be one, five, ten or twenty. Whatever it is, find it and use it in the Master's service.

In the Masters vineyard we may all find expression for our native abilites. We have but to grasp our opportunities. Alexander, the Great, said he "Conquered the world by not delaying." James A. Garfield said "Today is a king

in disguise." "Act, act in the living present."

"If I were you, I'd see my path of duty so plain and straight without a curve or bend; and walk upon it without swerve or falter, trom life's beginning to its end. I'd be so strong, so brave, so true, if I were you."



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VALUABLE INFORMATION.

To aid subscribers in forming their estimate, we furnish the following data

Year	Total Population	Increase	Per		
1790	3,929,214	929,214	31		
1800	5,808,483	1,379,269	35		
1810	7,320,881	2,021,398	37		
1820	9,638,453	2,317,572	32		
1830	12,860,020	3,221,567	33		
1840	17,069,453	4,209,433	33		
1850	23,191,876	6,122,423	35		
1860	31,443,321	8,251,455	35		
1870	38,558,371	7,115,050	22		
1880	50,155,783	11,597,412	30		
1890	62,622,250	12,466,467	25		

The population for 1900 at an increase of 21 per cent over the population would be............75,772,922. (An increase of 13,150,672.)

At an increase of 22 per cent it would be... 76,399,144 (An increase of 13,776,894.)

At an increase of 23 per cent it would be . . 77.205,366. (An increase of 24,403,116.) At an increase of 24 per cent it would be. .77,651,588

(An increase of 15,029,338.) At an increase of 25 per cent it would be .. 78,277,812 (An increase of 15,655,562.)

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In case of a tie, or that two or more estimators are equally correct, prizes will be divided equally between them.

This contest will close one month before the population has been officially announced by the director of the United States Census at Washington, D. C., and THE BRECKEN-RIDGE NEWS will announce the date when the guessing will close.

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CLOVERPORT, KENTUCKY.

FORDSVILLE.

Mrs. Martha Canahan is on the sick

Cowley Tilford is very sick at this writing. Miss Hattie May was on the sick list

J. W. Pate, of Jolly Station, was in town this week.

Born to the wife of Prof. L. W. Godey on the 21st inst., a girl.

The family of J. A. Harris visited at Mr. Lum Bratchers Sunday. Mr. Bob Keown, of Rockport, Ind., who is in bad health, is visiting his

brother, S. O. Keown. The pupils of Prof. Godsey are practicing for and entertainment to be given the first of the month. There was an ice cream supper and dent. One day last week he was carry-

tler's Saturday night. A large crowd at-Misses Flora Tilford and Jessie Hen-

derson, who have been off attending school, have returned home. We are glad to see them back. There is to be a grand picnic given by

the Fordsville people close to town on the Fourth. A premium will be given to the winner in a bicycle race. A young man by the name of Hall,

who died of consumption, was brought sore eyes. Fordsville cemetery. A large crowd was present, and all sympathiz d with the

A young man by the name of Joe Staples, formerly of this place but now living at Deanfield and working at the mines, lately met with a terrible acci-

pound party given at Mr. Charlie Whit- ing a keg of blasting powder, which ex ploded, knocking the young man a great distance, tearing of his clothes and mutilating him terribly. He is not expected to live. His mother is a widow and we do indeed sympathize with her.

> Improve your eyes—get rid of that rough, grinding feeling of the lids and clear your sight by applying Sutherland's Eagle Eye Salve. Try it tonight and you will see better tomorrow night. It is not unpleasant to use. A specific for

> > A Lady Apostle,

"What is an epistle?" asked a Sunday chool teacher. There was a pause, and then a solitary hand went up.

"I know, teacher." "Well, my dear?"

"The wife of an apostle, teacher."

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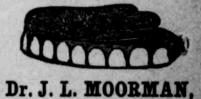
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